

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A method of providing a multi-level hierarchical communications network comprising the steps of:

accessing a network central database;

creating a networking data set by entering information relating to multiple entities;

assigning specific access rights of varying levels to each entity;

storing the information at the database;

searching the networking data set to identify entities satisfying a specific criteria; and

verifying the access rights assigned to the entities found in the search result.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the access rights convey or deny access to further database searching.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the access rights comprise at least two different security levels.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the different security levels are associated with unique information relating to each entity.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the search result.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of transmitting information to the entities found in the search result.

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7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the search result contains information relating to entities assigned a specific level access right.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the information relating to the multiple entities is at least one of name, address, date of birth, academic degrees, family tree, employment history, professional organizations, company name, products, services, brands, expertise, hobbies and sports interests.

9. (Original) A method of providing a networking database comprising the steps of:

connecting to a central database;

storing multiple user profiles at the central database;

assigning user access rights to each user profile;

searching network search fields associated with each user profile for specific criteria;

receiving information regarding user profiles related to the specific search criteria; and

performing a subsequent network search by searching the information received to determine additional user profiles.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the access rights comprise at least two different security levels.


11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the different security levels are associated with unique information relating to the specific search criteria.

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of displaying the search result from the subsequent network search.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the network search fields contain information selected from the group consisting of name, address, date of birth, academic degree(s), family tree, employment history, professional organizations, company name, products, services, brands, hobbies and sports interests.

14. (Original) A method of searching a network database comprising the steps of:

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- (a) storing information relating to a first entity in a first network database;
  - (b) storing information relating to a second entity in a second network database;
  - (c) assigning access rights to the information relating to each entity in the first and second network databases;
  - (d) searching the first network database for specific data relating to the first entity;
  - (e) searching the second network database for the specific data requirement if the search of the first network database does not find criteria matching the specific data requirement;
  - (f) associating a multibridge linking code with the second entity if the entity has criteria matching the specific data requirement from the second search;
  - (g) retrieving the specific data by using the multibridge linking code; and
  - (h) establishing contact with the entity.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the multibridge linking code grants the privilege to access further information relating to each entity in the second group.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the multibridge linking codes are time-bound codes.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the multibridge linking codes are at least one of alphanumeric, ~~symbol and~~ symbols and icons.

18. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the multibridge linking codes are randomly assigned.

19. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the method of establishing contact is by at least one of telephone, e-mail, mail, wireless communication device and the Internet.


20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein a contact message is auto-forwarded to the entity.

21. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of (i) searching the second network database for the specific data requirement even if the search of the first network database results in finding criteria matching the specific data requirement.

22. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the first entity and the second entity each comprise at least one individual.

23. (Original) The method of claim 14 wherein the first entity and the second entity each comprise at least one Industry or Company.

24. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising the step of (j) storing information relating to a variable number of entities in a variable number of network databases and repeating steps (c) - (i) for entities having criteria matching the specific data requirement.



25. (Withdrawn) A networking system comprising:

- an internal interface gateway;
- an input/output device in communication with the internal interface gateway;
- a processor connected to the input/output device;
- an external interface gateway; and
- wherein the internal interface gateway connects the processor with the external interface gateway.

26. (Withdrawn) The networking system of claim 25 wherein the external interface gateway is connected with at least one of a Wireless Service Provider, Internet Service Provider, electronic mail server, voice mail interface and BBS.

27. (Withdrawn) The networking system of claim 25 wherein the internal interface gateway is at least one of a PC, voice communication system, PDA or wireless communication device.

28. (Withdrawn) A multi-level hierarchical communications network comprising:

- a network central database;
- a data set including information relating to multiple entities;
- a storing device for storing the information at the database;
- a network interface for searching the database; and
- a user interface in communication with the network interface.

29. (Withdrawn) The network of claim 28 wherein the network interface communicates with at least one of a Wireless Service Provider, Internet Service Provider, electronic mail server, voice mail interface and BBS.

30. (Withdrawn) The network of claim 28 wherein the user interface is a PC or voice communication system, PDA or wireless communication device.

31. (Original) A network database system comprising:

means for storing information relating to a first entity in a first network central database;

means for storing information relating to a second entity in a second network central database;

means for assigning access rights to the information relating to each entity in the first and second network databases;

means for searching the first network database for the specific data relating to the first entity;

means for searching the second network database for the specific data requirement if the search of the first network does not find criteria matching the specific data requirement;

means for associating a multibridge linking code with each individual in the second group; and

means for retrieving the specific data by using the multibridge linking code.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31 wherein the multibridge linking code grants the privilege to access further information relating to the second entity.

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33. (Original) The system of claim 31 wherein the multibridge linking codes are time-bound codes.

34. (Original) The system of claim 31 wherein the multibridge linking codes are at least one of alphanumeric, symbols and icons.

35. (Original) The method of claim 31 wherein the multibridge linking codes are randomly assigned.

36. (Original) A system for providing a networking database comprising:  
means for connecting to a central database;  
means for storing multiple user profiles at the central database;  
means for assigning user access rights to each user profile;  
means for searching network search fields associated with each user profile for specific criteria;  
means for receiving information regarding user profiles related to the specific search criteria; and  
means for performing a subsequent network search by searching the information received to determine additional user profiles.


37. (Original) The system of claim 36 wherein the access rights comprise at least two different security levels.

38. (Original) The system of claim 36 wherein the different security levels are associated with unique information relating to the specific search criteria.

39. (Original) The system of claim 36 further comprising the step of displaying the search result.

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40. (Original) The system of claim 36 wherein the network search fields contain information selected from the group consisting of name, address, date of birth, academic degrees, family tree, employment history, professional organizations, company name, products, services, brands, hobbies and sports interests.



41. (Original) A communications network comprising:

- means for accessing a network central database;
- means for creating a networking data set by entering information relating to multiple entities;
- means for assigning specific access rights of varying levels to each entity;
- means for storing the information at the database;
- means for searching the networking data set to identify entities satisfying a specific criteria; and
- means for verifying the access rights assigned to the entities found in the search result.

42. (Original) The network of claim 41 wherein the access rights convey or deny access to further database searching.

43. (Original) The network of claim 41 wherein the access rights comprise at least two different security levels.

44. (Original) The network of claim 43 wherein the different security levels are associated with unique information relating to each entity.

45. (Original) The network of claim 41 further comprising the step of displaying the search result.



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46. (Original) The network of claim 41 further comprising the step of transmitting information to the entities found in the search result.

47. (Original) The network of claim 41 wherein the search result contains information relating to entities assigned a specific level access right.

48. (Original) The network of claim 41 wherein the information relating to multiple entities is selected from the group consisting of name, address, date of birth, academic degrees, family tree, employment history, professional organizations, company name, products, services, brands, hobbies and sports interests.

49. (Withdrawn) A method of networking comprising the steps of:

- providing a network database comprised of different companies and/or groups;
- geographically segmenting the companies and/or groups;
- categorizing the companies and/or groups by industry;
- categorizing the companies and/or groups by services provided;
- categorizing the companies and/or groups by products made;
- categorizing the companies and/or groups by expertise;
- assigning one or more keywords to each category;
- searching the network database using the one or more keywords for one or more companies and/or groups having criteria matching a specific requirement; and
- further searching the network database to identify one or more contacts associated with the companies and/or groups found in a search result.

50. (Withdrawn) A method of networking comprising the steps of:

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providing a network database comprised of at least one of different companies or groups;

geographically segmenting the at least one company or group;

categorizing the at least one company or group by industry;

categorizing the at least one company or group by services provided;

categorizing the at least one company or group by products made;

categorizing the at least one company or group by expertise;

assigning one or more keywords to each category;

searching the network database using the one or more keywords for one or more companies or groups having criteria matching a specific requirement; and

further searching the network database to identify one or more contacts associated with the companies or groups found in a search result.

51. (Original) A method of optimizing networking capability comprising the steps of:

providing a networking database comprised of information relating to multiple entities;

searching the networking database for specific data relating to the entities;

assigning a multibridge linking code to each entity found during the search that has criteria matching the specific data requirement;

creating a hierarchical chain between each entity found during the search;

assigning a key to represent all the multibridge linking codes that have been assigned during the search;

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configuring the key to be passed between each entity in the hierarchical chain;

using the key to contact the first entity in the hierarchical chain found during the search;

using the key to contact the next entity in the hierarchical chain found during the search;

wherein each entity in the hierarchical chain decides whether to forward the key to the subsequent entity in the hierarchical chain.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein each entity in the hierarchical chain conveys or denies access to their information by not using the key to contact a subsequent entity.

53. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the key is configured to be time-bound.

54. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the key is configured to be at least one of alphanumeric, symbols and icons.

55. (Original) The method of claim 51 wherein the key is randomly assigned.